

COMMISSIONERS APPROVAL

ROKOSCH

GRANDSTAFF

THOMPSON

CHILCOTT

DRISCOLL

PLETTENBERG (Clerk & Recorder)

Date.....June 22, 2007

Members Present..... Commissioner Jim Rokosch,
Commissioner Carlotta Grandstaff and Commissioner Kathleen Driscoll

Minutes: Beth Farwell

Commissioner Thompson attended a Mental Health & CDC meeting in Kalispell through out the day.

The Board met to discuss Airport issues in regard to interior roads. Commissioner Driscoll nominated Commissioner Rokosch to be acting Chairman for the meeting. Commissioner Grandstaff seconded the motion, all voted 'aye'.

Civil Counsel Alex Beal opened the meeting with an update of the past litigation settlement requiring the paving of a road at the Airport.

Chairman of the Airport Board Dave Hedditch, explained the Road Department has utilized gravel at the Airport for many years. He stated there is a discrepancy between the Airport and Road Department's view upon how much has been used. The Airport has estimated it was 4,000 and the current administration of the Road Department disagrees.

Airport Manager Page Gough stated they are here today for an explanation of a bill received, consent to FAA regulations and a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Airport and the Road Department. Commissioner Driscoll asked how a MOU would be done. Page replied a memorandum of understanding is simply an agreement and they would copy it to the FAA.

David replied the Road and Bridge Department built the Airport. He stated they built the runways and completed the site work. Therefore any gravel that has been taken should 'be a wash'. His department had people work overtime which included weekends. With the last road that was built last summer, his department footed the bill and never saw a

dime in return. David stated if the Board is going to 'do these types of things', they need something to demonstrate how the Road Department will be reimbursed.

Commissioner Driscoll asked the road that was built last year is a county road. David replied he doesn't know if the road is a county road or not. He stated there is no value of county infrastructure. Commissioner Grandstaff asked David if he is referring to the road that was to be built due to the litigation. David replied there isn't a road that currently exists. It is just a meadow right now.

Commissioner Driscoll stated former Commissioner Betty Lund mentioned to her there is to be some reimbursement over time from the Airport to the Road Department. She then questioned if FAA money can be used for the road. Page replied no. Civil Counsel Alex Beal concurred with Page and stated not directly.

Commissioner Driscoll asked which pocket of money the road construction would come from. Administrative Assistant Glenda Wiles stated FAA funding is very specific as to what project or Task Order it is to be spent on and it does not include the road.

Commissioner Driscoll asked about the cost of completing the road. Dave Hedditch replied he doesn't have a clue but David should know.

Commissioner Driscoll asked if the Road Department would be doing the taxi way. David replied that project would go out to bid. Commissioner Rokosch asked why the FAA isn't involved in this project now. Alex replied they consult but they are not involved in the road construction.

Commissioner Rokosch asked if there are any grant funds to cover the expenses. Page replied no and gave the Board a background update as to the SEAT Base location utilized by the Forest Service.

Commissioner Rokosch inquired as to how they will resolve the FAA and Fournier's issue with the road. Alex replied the previous Board pledged to the Forest Service the road will be done (this is the first road), and to the FAA and Mark Fournier, they will build half of the road (this is the second road through a litigation/settlement agreement).

Alex then recapped the litigation settlement (with Mark Fournier) and past pledges to the Forest Service. Page presented a detailed map to the Board showing the SEAT Base and the proposed road. He further explained the current requirement of the road that will service Mark Fournier FBO area.

Commissioner Rokosch asked if the Road Department had a ballpark estimate for this second road completion. David replied they have anywhere from 2 to 4 feet of topsoil that has to be removed, then it has to be rebuilt. It involves importing materials, personnel, and equipment to bring in. He would estimate \$50,000 – \$75,000. Commissioner Rokosch asked if there is any gravel on site that could be utilized.

David replied they might be able to cheat a little bit there, however, this road construction won't be cheap, as they are looking at creating a road that doesn't exist.

Commissioner Driscoll asked if anyone had looked into the allocation of airport taxes. Page replied those taxes are allocated into the general fund from the State.

David stated the Road Department participates with other departments. They have in the past, fronted money for projects and then were reimbursed. He further stated the Road Department can front the cost of materials from their capital reserves, but would like to see an infrastructure in place before committing to it.

Commissioner Driscoll stated she has a problem accepting money to do a job and don't pay it back. She further stated they will have a very tough time not doing the right thing with the FAA. If someone needs her to come out there and enforce a clean up, she will be more than happy to do what she can.

Commissioner Rokosch asked Glenda if the monies to build this second road could come out of general fund or capital reserve. Glenda replied she will have to check with Accountant Jana Exner to see what monies are within the capital reserve.

Commissioner Driscoll asked David what the overtime situation is right now. He replied they are 'currently maxed out'. Any further discussion of the overtime would need to involve the Internal Auditor Klarryse Murphy.

Commissioner Driscoll asked when the deadline is for this road construction. Alex replied they have a 'nebulous deadline' which means they have to show some progress by July 1st.

Commissioner Rokosch asked if the Forest Service could utilize this road. Page replied they currently do, by driving through a field.

Glenda returned and informed the Board there is 2.7 million in reserves. Approximately \$715,000 of this 2.7 is capital reserves which belong to numerous departments. For example the Commissioners have \$35,000 in capital reserves, and the Airport has \$1,800 in capital reserves. So any monies reimbursed to the Road Department would have to come out of the actual reserves not out of capital reserves. She also stated the reimbursement to the Road Department or payment for this second road would be a political decision by the Commissioners as they enter into their FY 2008 Budget deliberations (referencing the chalk board to the various budgets/needs/shortages of the county departments). Discussion followed regarding funding possibilities and time frames.

Glenda stated with the use of overtime by the Road Personnel, the cost of the road construction might possibly be done cheaper by a private contractor. The only issue is the time frame the Commissioners are up against.

David stated he disagrees and feels the Road Department can do it cheaper. Glenda replied they should explore that option, particularly in light of David's statement that the road would have to be engineered as she did not think an engineer is required to spec the road prior to it being built particularly when this might be changed with the next Task Order when the Environmental Assessment is completed.

David stated the only solution he sees is for the Board to direct the Road Department to start the project. Page stated what they need is to have a MOU in place prior to doing anything.

Commissioner Grandstaff inquired about the cost of putting out an RFP. Glenda replied the cost is for a legal ad (\$16.00 to \$32.00). Alex stated a delay could possibly increase the risk from the FAA for future lawsuits (if they did not start the project by July 1st).

Commissioner Rokosch called for a motion to direct the Road Department to begin the project.

Commissioner Driscoll made a motion for the Board to direct the Road and Bridge Department to begin the road project at the Airport. Commissioner Grandstaff seconded the motion, all voted 'aye'.

David stated they will start next Friday and give a complete cost estimate to the Board next week.

Commissioner Rokosch asked the Board how they wanted to pay for the first road (bill in the amount of \$41,000) that was needed for the SEAT Base. Page asked if the county owns the equipment, then why the county is being charged for it. David replied they have to show expenditures and they do this by rental rates, personnel and cost of materials. The value of hourly usage is to not be taken out of the bill.

Glenda asked for a clarification of the previous motion. She asked if the Commissioners intend to pay for the 'hard costs' of completing the road such as gravel etc. or do they intend to pay the Road Department for their equipment rental, gravel, and personnel overtime. She stated Commissioners Thompson, Lund and Chilcott had questioned the payment of personnel and equipment since those monies are budgeted monies to begin with. She also asked if they were going to consider any of the land area that or gravel as part of the trade for this work by the Road Department.

Commissioner Driscoll stated she does understand it is required by the FAA and at this point she simply wants to clean this mess up. Discussion followed regarding cost of the project with the understanding grants that will not replace any of the cost.

David explained it is not as simple as writing up an explanation. Commissioner Rokosch stated they have to clean it up and deal with it. He further stated everyone needs to understand this has to stop. Glenda replied she understands the new Commissioners wanting to 'clean this up', but reiterated her question about the trade of gravel and gravel

pit area the road department has enjoyed for the past four decades. She agreed this issue is not Page or Dave's fault, but noted no one knows, not even David, at this point what the cost of the new road will be.

Commissioner Rokosch called for a motion for the Airport to pay \$10,000 (of the \$41,000 bill for the first road) to the Road Department and then issue a MOU for the second road to be built per the settlement agreement.

Commissioner Driscoll stated they need a clean slate. They must forget the past and start over again on common ground.

Commissioner Grandstaff made a motion to direct the Airport to pay \$10,000 to the Road Department and the remaining \$31,308 to come from capital reserves in order to pay the Road Department for the first road built last year. Commissioner Driscoll seconded the motion, all in favor 'aye'.

Commissioner Rokosch stated there is still the remaining issue of MOU. Page stated he keeps a running list of what the Road Department does for the Airport and the Airport does for them. David stated the issue is the value of occupying that ground.

Page indicated he has a boiler plate for a MOU.

Commissioner Driscoll asked if the Airport needs to have the land appraised. Dave Hedditch stated he believes Airport Board member John Trowbridge could perform this and he will visit with him about it.

Commissioner Rokosch stated they all need to agree this MOU needs to be brought back to the Board by July 16th for approval. Everyone concurred.